

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

* * *

ELIZABETH BASTIAN,)
Plaintiff,) 2:10-CV-0958-LRH-LRL
v.)
ALLSTATE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY)
INSURANCE COMPANY,)
Defendant.)

)

Before the court is defendant Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company's ("Allstate") notice of removal. Doc. #1.¹

"[A]ny civil action brought in a State court of which the district courts of the United States have original jurisdiction, may be removed by the defendant or the defendants, to the district court of the United States." 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a). After a party files a petition for removal, the court must determine whether federal jurisdiction exists, even if no objection is made to removal. *See Rains v. Criterion Systems, Inc.*, 80 F.3d 339, 342 (9th Cir. 1996).

The district courts of the United States have original jurisdiction of civil actions when the suit is between citizens of different states and the amount in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs, exceeds \$75,000. 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a). If a complaint does not specify the amount of

¹Refers to the court's docket

1 damages, “the removing defendant bears the burden of establishing, by a preponderance of the
2 evidence, that the amount in controversy exceeds \$[75],000.” *Sanchez v. Monumental Life Ins.*
3 *Co.*, 102 F.3d 398, 404 (9th Cir. 1996). “The court may consider facts in the removal petition and
4 may require parties to submit summary-judgment-type evidence relevant to the amount in
5 controversy at the time of removal.” *Kroske v. U.S. Bank Corp.*, 432 F.3d 976, 980 (9th Cir. 2006)
6 (internal quotation marks omitted).

7 After review of the complaint and defendants’ petition for removal, the court finds it
8 requires more evidence to determine whether it has subject matter jurisdiction over this case.
9 Allstate claims that plaintiff “has demanded in excess of \$75,000 from [Allstate]” because
10 plaintiff’s complaint seeks “general and compensatory damages in an amount in excess of
11 \$10,000.” Doc. #1. However, this statement alone is insufficient to establish jurisdiction.
12 Jurisdiction will only exist if defendants can present “summary-judgment-type evidence” to
13 establish by a preponderance of the evidence that this case meets § 1332(a)’s amount in controversy
14 requirement. Allstate is therefore granted leave to present evidence in order to establish that this
15 action involves the requisite amount in controversy.

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17 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that defendant shall have twenty (20) days from the filing
18 of this order to establish the minimum amount in controversy for the exercise of diversity
19 jurisdiction.

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IT IS SO ORDERED.

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DATED this 23rd day of July, 2010.



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LARRY R. HICKS
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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